



IDAHO STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION

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BOARD APPROVES PROPOSED RULE ON TEACHER CERTIFICATION

(Pocatello). The Board today approved a Proposed Administrative Rule detailing a new tiered certification system for Idaho teachers. This new approach is based on the work of the committee established by the Board to develop implementation plans for the recommendations of the Governor's Task Force for Improving Education. Recommendations included a teacher licensure system that provides "a continuum of professional growth and learning that is tied to licensure. Movement through the system would be accomplished in a very specific, objective way using performance measures."

Board President Emma Atchley commented during Board discussion, "*This is a sea change in how we handle the certification of Idaho teachers.*"

Task Force Chair and Board member Richard Westerberg said, "*We thank the committee charged with this task for the heavy lifting they have done to work through the details and bring this proposal to the Board.*"

"*We know that the most important factor in a child's academic success is the quality of the teacher in the classroom,*" said Superintendent Tom Luna, who served on the committee. "*Today, the State Board took an important first step in assuring that every child has a highly effective teacher in every class, every year.*"

The proposed rule, which can be found on the Board's website, will be posted by the Department of Administration on October 1, 2014. After the prescribed 21-day comment period, the rule will then come back to the Board at a special meeting in early November for further consideration, including review of the public comment, before going to the legislature in January. The Board will hold public hearing on the proposed rule during the 21-day comment period.

To learn more about the Education Improvement Committees and to view the proposed rule, visit www.boardofed.idaho.gov.

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